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October 27, 2013

Testimony to the Public Safety and Economic Development Committee
Bill No. & Title: Bill 53 (2013) - Open Data

Subject: Testimony in support for Bill 53 (2013) CD1
Date, Time: Tuesday, October 29, 2013, 9:00 a.m.
Place: City Hall, Committee Meeting Room

To: Committee Chair Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair Kymberly Marcos Pine and Members of the Committee on Public Safety and Economic Development:

I am Jared I. Kuroiwa and one of the founding members of the Hawai'i Innovation Alliance (HIA). The Hawai'i Innovation Alliance is an organization formed in 2012 that aims to create a more unified voice representing the islands' innovation community to foster innovation, educate lawmakers, and advocate for appropriate policy.

The Hawai'i Innovation Alliance **strongly supports Bill 53 (2013), Relating to Open Data**. HIA believes that information held by the City & County of Honolulu that has been deemed public information by the State Office of Information Practices should be made available in open, standards-based, machine-readable formats. We believe that this policy will drive increased government efficiency and civic engagement that will lead to social and economic benefits culminating in a restoration of trust in government through transparency and collaboration.

Bill 53 (2103) aligns the City & County of Honolulu with the State of Hawaii's recently passed Act 263 by extending open data principles to the municipal level.

We do have some concerns over the language in Sec 2-_5 (a) and Sec 4-_5 (a) with the phrase "is of minimal public interest." We believe that the policies being drafted will include a process of vetting data sets that will include the public for prioritization of data sets rather than a policy to determine interest.

There is also a cosmetic change in Sec. 4-_5 (b) (2) to remove a floating " at the end of the sentence.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this measure.

MISC. COM. 2630

PSED